

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-22 are pending in this application. Claim 12 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form, the dependency of Claim 16 has been changed, and Claims 17-22 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. The changes made to the claims do not narrow the scope of any claim element, but also are not deemed to affect the allowability of those claims. Claims 1, 7 and 17-22 are independent claims.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-11, 17, 18, 20 and 21, and the Examiner's indication that Claims 13-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form with no change in scope. Claim 13 has been so rewritten, Claim 16 has been amended to depend from Claim 13, and the original recitation of Claim 13 has been added to Claims 19 and 22, thus also placing those claims in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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